WASHINGTON CRITIC

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THE CRITIC, DES D'stroet.

Washington, D. C. LOCAL WEATHER FORFEAST. For the District of Columbia, winds ship ing to colder worthwestering fair weather cold waves colder and fair Plaumbry,

Washington, Ferricary 26, 1890.

UNitry At, assessment means unjust

ALL IMPROVEMENTS benefit the city, but it is the city that gives value to all improvements.

Alaska skal fun fisheries bid No. 8 Is neither greatly better nor greatly worse than several of its fellows. But there are some Indianapolis "business men" interested in it.

Tr THE BIOH MAN'S palatial residence is favored in its assessment to reward his enterprise, as Mr. Warner says is just, it must follow that the poor man will, in consequence, pay a higher tax on his small and meagre house, which Mr. Warner must think also just.

Does a Man show public spirit in higher taxation on his fellow citizens, he crects fine buildings or makes other improvements, the prospective and increasing values of which redound wholly to his own individual profit?

THE NEW YORK courts do not favor Colonel Dudley very much in his suits for libel against New York newspapers, growing out of the notorious "blocks offive" letter. The newspapers all want to examine him before trial. He doesn't want to be examined, and so moves to dismiss the order. The courts deny his motion with disheartening regularity.

A school super for Washington harbor is an excellent suggestion. It would give useful and beneficial training to many hundreds of our boys, who might be supplied from our public schools and be fitted for the merchant service or the navy. The naval authorities are it is "of purest my serene," Referring believed to favor the proposal, and to complete the arrangements and secure the needed legislation there is only needed the approving action of the school trustees and the Commissioners.

THE NEGROES OF Topeka, Kan. have organized a secret political society, to be known as the "First Grand | the box in which he had been confined Independent Brotherhood." Its object is to settle enough negroes in had vowed his destruction. Oklahoma to control it. They say the white men will then be com- the feeling in the monarchical countries pelled to recognize the negroes as of Europe to-day. All around the equals or keep out. The negroes are thrones, and encircling the artificial in a big majority in both South Caro- classes of society that stand upon prelina and Mississippi, but that fact scriptive rights, range the rights, wants, doesen't compel the whites to treat woes of humanity, and it is felt that, if Ahem as equals or keep out. Why anything is conceded, the genius may should it work differently in Okla- he let loose.

UNEQUAL TAXATION.

Unjust-that is, unequal-taxation can only arise from unequal assessment. The assessment has nothing to do with the amount, or what is called "the burden." of taxation.

In this District the estimates for each ensuing year are finally made up in the Commissioners' office, and upon them is founded what is known as the District Appropriation bill. When this bill is passed half of the sum appropriated becomes the tax-levy of the District and is the fixed burden of our taxation. The rate per cent, of the general assessment which will raise this sum is then ascertained and thereafter the amount of tax required from each individual is readily determined.

Now if the general assessment has been proportionately just, it will be seen at once that the distribution of taxation will also be just. But if the assessment is unequal-if in that there has been any discrimination or favoritism-that same inequality or discrimination will appear in the apportionment of taxation.

The great preponderance of testimony shows that the assessment of this District discriminates against the poor and the moderately-circumstanced propcrty holders and in favor of the rich It is, therefore, a mathematical certainty that in taxation under such a system the poor are discriminated against and the rich favored.

THE DUTY OF THE HOUR. THE CHITIC has been at great pains

to ascertain and publish the opinions of many well-known citizens of three important classes in regard to the question of unjust assessments now being agitated. It will be seen that a great majority of them is in full support of THE Carrie's original statement, and that nearly all of them agree that a reform of the present system is an imperative

A day or two ago it was suggested that the true way to go to work for the redress of this grievance was either to form new associations of the people in the several sections of the city which should, by committees and otherwise, proceed to ascertain the facts on which a proper representation might be based; or to utilize, for the same system weak industries are sustained purpose, the popular organizations now

The principal of these is the "Committee of One Hundred," and as this prises. body has given attention to the matter of District assessments for several months past and seems to have arrived at the conclusion that the unjust system should be abolished, it is probable that through it the speediest action could be taken. What is to hinder this important and representative committee from convening as soon as possible and taking the matter into immediate and special consideration?

at once. Exposures of fraud are perfeetly innocuous and unavailing unless there is spirit enough in the people to demand its cessation and redress. If clear and unequivocal terms.

THE INDIANAPOLIS BID.

Attorney General Michener's attempt to obscure the issue as regards himself and other Indiana personal and political friends of the President as bidders for the scal fur monopoly, is a piece of ingenious special pleading. "He says: "It was thought to be neither oriminal nor unlawful for Indianapolis business me to make a bid for the lease."

That is the sum and substance of his defense. It atterly falls to cover the case. Among these Indianapolis bustness men there is not a single Demoerat. These Indianapolis business mer are all, by a singular chauce, Republi cans. Most of them are, and for many years have been, the henchmen of Benjamin Harrison, President of the United States. Of course they expected their reward when he gained the summit of his ambition. With true Hoosier modesty they have selected the richest of all

the monopolies Uncle Sam may grant. The point raised by THE Carrie is this: That it is scandalous for the personal friends, who are also the political. lieutenants, of the President of the United States to make a bid for such a profitable privilege as the seal fisheries. A man is always in more danger from his friends that from himself. Witness the scandals which occurred during General Grant's Presidency. His honesty is conceded, but scandal after scandal marred his Administration. any true sense when, at the expense of His friends were the cause of them all.

President Harrison's closest personal and political friends, even his family physician, are seeking the Government's richest gift. It may be all right, but it will be absolutely impossible to make anybody believe that it is so. If they gain the contract, the public will be-Heve that they gained it because they had access to the private ear of the President. For this reason it is scandalous for them to bid at all.

THE GENIUS LET LOOSE.

From amid the undigested mass of news transmitted by the cable relative to the mixed condition of European affairs, where Socialists have triumphed and Imperialists and Conservatives have been virtually beaten at the polls, come one gleam of political intelligence, and to the German Emperor's project in regard to an international conference to consider the general question of labor and the condition of the workingman. President Carnot remarked that the Kaiser's experiment might be like the act of the fisherman in the "Arabian Nights," who released the genius from only to find that the self-same genius

This, to all intents and purposes, is

And history shows how terrible this at the National Capital. letting loose of the genius may prove. In France the calling together States-General in 1789 set free the genius, before that time confined, and brought on the revolution and the sub-

sequent history of that country. Republies, too, have their experiences of this sort. Our Republic let loose the genius of universal suffrage, and now finds itself confronted with hundreds of thousands of voters who cannot read the Constitution nor know what it means. The reconstruction period, which witnessed the indiscriminate bestowal of suffrage upon the liberated negro, was also the liberation of the genius of the story, and the race problem now confronts the South as a consequence.

In these old stories the wise will ometimes find lessons and priciples of very wide application, and, in general, t may be said that the best provision for the present and future can be made through a careful study of the lessons

ABOUT SUBSIDIES.

Notwithstanding the progress in political science and methods which it is claimed free nations have made, it is curious to observe that in the freest of them-the United States-practical Government in instances is simply another name for organized injustice. It is curious, too, to note that in the case of these instances, instead of their being recognized as unjust, they are often advocated as beneficial by many otherwise intelligent and upright citizens.

Thus, in municipal government, an unjust assessment of taxable property is sometimes defended because, through its inequality, what is called enterprise and the spirit of improvement, may receive a subsidy through lighter taxation at the expense of the great body of tax-payers." In kational Government private enterprises which, it is con fessed by their treatment, could not prosper unaided, are made profitable to their proprietors by the imposition of a tax on the great body of consumers: and this injustice-this indirect robbery-is approved and advocated as a means of protecting infant industries that never come of age, by men by no means lacking in knowledge, but wanting in all the virtues, because without justice or unselfishness. Through this by forced subsidies from the people for the benefit of the few unfortunates who

And now, the Republican party, organized as the present Government of the United States, proposes to make the business of salling ships and steamers to foreign ports, which, in and of itself, would not pay, remunerative to the owners of those ships, by giving them subsidies drawn from the United States Treasury; that is, from the pockets of

have invested in the unlucky enter-

This question of subsidies is some Something should be done, and that | times confounded with that of compen-

oftener or with more misleading pur pose than by the advocates of subsidies. These things are entirely distinct. The citizens desire to put an end to unjust advocates of subsidies point to the taxation through unequal assessment immense floating commerce of England let that desire be made known to the as the result of subsidized aid. Eng-Commissioners and to Congress in land has a commerce that goes everywhere. Her mails, therefore, also go to the same universal destination, and the ships that carry them are well paid for the service. But England gives no subsidies.

There is no objection to liberal pay for carrying ocean mails under the American flag. Neither, as the policy of nations now shapes itself, need there be any serious complaint if the Government should judiciously aid in the construction of merchant ships after a pattern which would make them convertible into war vessels for the Government in case of need. Such expenditures might, in some sense, be justified by the plea that they were made for the general welfare.

But the subsidy system which Republicans advocate is not at all in the nature of compensation for services ren-

dered or to be rendered. The demand in the propositions now before Congress is that a bounty of thirty cents a registered ton be paid for every thousand miles of voyage. A steamship of 3,000 tons sailing from New York to Liverpool would receive over \$5,000 a trip, and, for ten trips, over \$50,000. That is, \$50,000 would be taken forcibly and unjustly from the people of the United States to bolster up the business of an individual or a company embarked in a carrying trade, which, confessedly, would fall without such help.

This is what is meant by subsidies as the governing political party intends to grant them, and the injustice of the scheme is so manifest that it scarcely needs to be pointed out.

WHAT THE NATION WILL DO. The World's Fair is going to Chicago

and THE CHITIC wishes it Godspeed. Last night at a meeting of the executive committee of the Washington Board of Promotion several things were resolved upon with the view of holding a national quadri-centennial celebration of the discovery of America by Columbus here at the Capital of the greatest of the American nations.

It is proposed that the President shall appoint a committee to formulate a plan for an international celebration in which the nation will not be left out; that the National Museum shall be enlarged into a Three Americas' Museum to remain as a memorial of the great event; that a Memorial Bridge across the Potomac be built; that a statue of Columbus be unveiled on the 12th of October, 1892, and that all the American sister republies, the King of Italy, the Queen of Spain and the sovereigns of all other nations be invited to participate.

If this plan is carried out it will evidently be the true national celebration of the great event, and the commercial features of the Fair at Chicago will be simply an adjunct

Besides, the scheme of a Washington celebration involves local improvement. THE CHITIC is heartily for the proposed Memorial Bridge at the foot of New York avenue.

By all means, let the national celebration of the Columbus discovery be held

THE NEWS COMES from Slam that the King has granted valuable concessions in mines, railroads, and banking to Americans, having previously refused them to Englishmen. The astute monarch feared the English were plotting to seize his kingdom, while, of course, he had no such fear as to this country. This is suggestive. The nations of East are not suspicions of the United States. They know we have no designs upon their independence. Of all European countries they are distrustful. Americans ought, therefore, to find the East a bountiful field for their enterprise.

THE HOUSE CLAIMS Committee yesterday decided, by a vote of 10 to 1, to recome to the House a bill providing for the payment of those of the French spoliation claims which the Court of Claims decided were valid and ought to be paid. The only negative vote was east by Mr. Laidlow, the chairman. It is thought possible that he was influenced by a consideration of the fact that the Republican leaders contemplate unusually heavy appropriations, and would, therefore, prefer that such a little matter as paying century-old ciaims should be postponed until a more convenient sea-

THE WILD-EVED, long-haired individual wearing a big Mexican sembrero with a snake for a cord, trousers tucked in boottops, and wearing big, jingling spurs, who was at the House of Representatives vesterday, was the celebrated scout and boomer, Oklahoma Bill. He was accorded the privileges of the floor at an early hour by special order and held it until adjournment. He was introduced to the members by Representative Springer.

THE POLICE WILL ENGAGE In pistol practice in the National Guard's rifle gallery hereafter. If they should happen to learn that they have no right to shoot at a man simply because he is running away from them it would be an excellent thing. Besides a rifle gallery they ought to have a cinder track on which they can practice sprinting.

A PETERSBURG, VA., colored Baptist Church has a pastor who has taken a lesson from Speaker Reed. When, at a church meeting over which he presided, an attempt to present charges against him was made he very promptly decided the charges out of order, and the meeting broke up in the conventional row.

THE FRENCH CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES should send over and employ Speaker Reed to teach the art of preserving order to the president of that body,

FROM BALTIMORE TO Duluth, the zenith of the unsalted seas, is a far cry. The B. & O. has arranged for a through freight service by rail and boat.

tired from the ring, but is going to Hot Springs to box. It is hoped he won't come away in a box. AMERICAN MONEY keeps pouring into the coffers of the Irish cause. The Land League has received \$50,000 during the

PROPESSOR KILHAIN says he has not re-

past fortnight, VICE-PHESIDENT MORTON should accept Charleston's invitation to visit that city while on his Southern tour.

IT'S A VINE THING to be an Indianapolis 'business man' these days,

A LATE BLOSSOMING LOVE.

One cup and saucer; one little rededged plate; one bone-handled knife and fork; one silver spoon marked "R, S," and worn thin with much usage. It did not take Emma Smith very long to clear away

her breakfast table.

"If does seem," said she, speaking aloud, presumably to the cat, "as if I grew poorer and poorer every day! I had a little butter with my oatmeal yesterday. To-day I haven't any. There's only a handful of potatoes left in the bin, and four apples and a few carrots. And I've no money. Yes, it's come to that. I've get to self Aunt Desire's old blue Canton oning."

As she uttered the words, a moisture As she ritered the words, a moisture came into her eyes which made the white crocuses along the garden walk waver as if a high wind had swept over them.

No one would have believed that Emma Smith had once been the prettiest girl in Norvalton. Now and then a blue light would sparkle into her eyes, a faint flush of other would sparkle into her eyes, a faint flush of other world rise to her witherest head. solor would rise to her which might recall the days of yore, but these came seldom. She was a dresmaker by trade, but she had somehow gon maker by trade, but she had somehow gone out of fashion. People looked askance at her Paris plates, and doubted her ability to hang a skirt or cut a "surplice waist." The dashing "Madame" from New York got all the local custom. And there were times when Emma heartly wished that she had accepted Asa Hopper, instead of jeering at his suit.

ng at his suit, She had scarcely packed up the blue Can-She had scarcely packed up the blue Canton china set in a dilapidated splint basket when the sound of creaking wheels was heard, and Old Ma'am Porkins, seated on an aerial perch smid a brisiling array of crockery and tinware, driving a patient old horse, who paid no sort of attention to shaken refus or belaboring whip, came in view. Finns ran out to intercept her Emma ran out to intercept her.

view. Emma ran out to intercept her.
"Want to kuy anything, Emmas!"
Emma Smith shook her head. "Mrs.
Perkins." siid she, "I'm wantin' to sell."
"The land! To sell what, Emma!"
"Aunt Desfre's old set o' china. Real
Canton. Flowin' blue. The hull set perfect and not a chip nor a crack in it."
"What ye want for it."
"I haint no idea what it's wuth," sighed

Emma. "Anything it it bring."
"Wal, hand it up here an' I'il dew my
level best for ye," said Old Ma'am Perkins.
"I'm going down Bextord way this trip and some one may take a fancy to it."

It was late in the April twillight when
the crockery cart once more stopped at the
door. Emma ran out to greet the cheerful

old woman who sat on it,
"Wal," crisd Old Ma'am, "I sold it."
"Did you?" Emma had cherished an
llogical, lingering sort of hope that the blue china might prove unsalable, and thus come back to her after all. "And who d'ye guess bought it? Asa Hopper, up to the Brook Farm."

Hopper, up to the Brook Farm,"

"Ass Hopper?"

"Folks say he's going to be married," said
Old Ma'sm Perkins. "Anyhow, he's furnished up the house real slick, with a new
red store carpet in the best room, and new
wall paper, and Nottingham lace curtains.
Had property left him from the Fairfield
County Hoppers," added Old Ma'am.
"Says he; "Seems to me that chima looks
sort o' natural!" And says I: 'I wouldn't
wonder if you'd took tea off it before now.
It belongs to Emma Smith, the dressmaker,
down in Norvalton, 'says I, 'and she ain! down in Norvalton, says I, and she aint so well off as she was—and she wants to sell it. Says he 'How much'll ye take for it?' Says I: 'Twenty-live dollars,' (for I thought there wa'n't no use a sellip' it for nothing). Says he: 'l''ll take R!' An' here's the money all in gold, in a shammy leather purse, in the bottom of my pocket." And away she drove, chuckling to her-

Emma Smith went, back, into the dreary room, lighted her candle and set herself to work to apportion this unexpected win t-fall to her various debts and deficiencies; and through it all her heart was as heavy

as lead.
"It's nothing to me that Asa Hopper is going to be married," said she to herself.
"He's a real good fellow, and I'm sure I hope he'd do well. But—but I didn't spo'se he'd have forgot me so soon." And a big round tear, like a minature cap bubble, splashed down on the little

heap of gold pieces.

As Miss Emma Smith reached up to put As Miss Emma Smith reached up to put the money away in a cracked tumbler, at the back of the dresser shelf, she saw, standing there, a stocky little cream pitcher with the inevitable Chinese on the badly foreshortened bridge, traced in flowing blue lines on its apoplectic sides.

"There!" said she, "I forgot to send that cream pitcher with the rest, I'm sure I don't know how it ever came here,"

Just then there came a knock at the

Just then there came a knock at the door. Miss Smith had nearly dropped the pitcher in the start'she gave. She went to the door, and there stood Asa Hopper himself.

"Good evening, Emma!" said he, just exactly as if ten years had not clapsed since their last meeting.

"Good evening, Asa!" said the dressmaker, "I know what you came for. Sit

"You do, ch?" As a turned very red and dilligently dusted the inside of his hat with his silk handkerchief,

"You've come for that blue pitcher that belongs to your set, and here it is."
"No, I haint," said Asa Hopper, paying no heed to the article of household ware extended to him. "I've come for you,

"For-me?"

"Yes, just that," Ass Hopper laid his hat on the table and put his handkerchief back into his pocket in a business-like way. "Now look here. You're alone in the world-so be 1. And all these years since we were young together I've been a thinkin' of you and no one else. I'm well-to-do in the world, and I can keep my wife like a laby-and for a year hark I've been. like a lady—and for a year back I've been sort o' furnishing up my house and sayin' to myself: This 'ere carpet's a pattern Emma would like, 'and 'Them blue-pathed cheers would match Emma's eyes to a chaim. And the house is ready-ready-and when old Mrs. Perkins along the Canton china set and said you wanted to sell it, I knowed the call

had come. Be you ready, too, Emma v'! Emma colored, and still she smiled. It was not exactly the way in which she had pictured her future wooling, yet there was genuine love in Asa's eyes, and a spirit of "dead-in-earnest" breathing through all his Yes," she said. "I am ready!"

"Then give me a kiss, Emma," said the jubilant lover, jumping up, just to seal 'Oh, take care! you'll break the cream

"Oh, take care! you'll break the cream pitcher," said Emma. "Hang the cream pitcher," said Asa, and he got the kiss after all.

"But did you really love me all these years" asked Emma coyly. "Didn't you hever pay attention to no other gir?" "Never!" said Asa. "All my money was laid up for you, and that there house was furnished for you. And if you hadn't come there to live no other woman should, not until the day of my death."

Emma Smith's heart gave a little upward pulse. He was awkward, and loose.

pulse. He was awkward, and loose-jointed, and red-baired, this swain of hers, but among all the knights of King Arthur's Round Table there dwelt no more chivalspirit than his! And they were married, and Old Ma'am Perkins came to the wedding in a glisten-ing black silk gown, and they ate the wed-ding dinner off the Canton china set, and it in fair to conclude that they lived happy ever after. Is there any reason that they shouldn't? Need extreme youth he always a necessary element to happiness?—New York Ledver.

AMUSEMENTS.

"THE CROWN DIAMONDS"-Emma Abbott and her company appeared last night in Auber's romantic opera, "The Crown Diamonds," at the National Theatre. The cast included, besides Miss Abbott, Lizzie An-nandale, Michelena, Pruette, Broderick, and Alfan. The opera was sung with all the merit that characterized their Monday night's presentation of "Ernaul," and Miss Abbott won repeated applause. Miss Annaudate was in excellent voice. Michelena and Pruette sang effectively and with vigor. There was a large audience present.

The remainder of the week at the National will be taken up by a variety of performances, in which Mias Abbott and her company will be seen in several grades of opera. To utght "Martha" will be given, Abbott taking the character of Ledy Henrictte, in which she sings "The Last Rose of Supports" "The marter of the character of the Summer." To morrow "Il Trovatore" will be given with Abbott as Lemora, and on Friday "Ernani" will be repeated. This atternoon "The Bohemian Girl" will be given by the company only, but on Satur

day Miss Abbott will sing at both perform-

HOMEOPATHIC FREE DISPENSANT - A benest for the Homeopathic Free Dispensary was given last night in the lecture rendered by Miss Ida Townsend, Miss Ed-murds and Miss Rosenburg. Miss Han-man and Miss Brown sang, and Howell's 'Mouse Trap" was given, with the following

Mrs. Bemiss. rs. Curwen. Miss Carolynes. Roberts. Miss Annuillis Campbell. Mr. E.
There was a large attendance.

Figure Bootn.—A special train of five ars carried several hundred people to Baltimore last night to see Edwin Booth as wediek in "Much Ado About Nothing. The Holliday-street Theatre was comfortably filled with an audience made up of the fashionable people of both Biltimore and Washington, and they showed their appre-Washington, and they showed their appreciation by frequent applause and excercs.

Miss Minns K.Gale as Bestrice was superb, and her rendition of the part left nothing to be desired. Her graceful figure and the naturalness of her acting charmed the audience. The supporting company is strong, and the stage-settings showed a careful study of the time in which the scenes are laid. Booth will be in Baltimore for the which

AMUSEMENT NOTES. New National, Theathe—Seals will be on sale at this theatre to-morrow morning for the engagement next week of "Mr Barnes of New York,"

ALHAUGH'S GHAND OFERS HOUSE— Brouson Howard's "The Henrictta" will be produced at this house next week by Mr. Stnart Robson. Seats will be on sale -morrow morning.

EDWIN BOOTH—There will be three special Washington nights at Albaugh's Holliday-street Theatre next week—Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. The attractions will be respectively. "Hamlet," "Richelleu" and the "Merchant of Venice." Seats are still selling at Mitter's book-store. Harnis' Hisov.—The talented little sou-brette, Florence J. Bindley, whose accom-plishments are as varied as her dramatic alent is pronounced, will be at Harris' Bijou Theatre next week.

KERNAN'S-GOS Hill's World of Novelties, embracing new acts and faces, and including Chip, the wonderful boy comedian, 5 years old, will be at Kernan's next week.

AVENUE STUDIES

The eminent French diplomatist, Talley rand, was wont to say, when in a communi cative mood, that he delighted to study men and women from a close personal of servation. That the way they talked, walked and dressed gave him an insight into their character, which never could be gathered from their letters, in which they, to use a slang expression, always "put their best foot foremost." In other words, he desired to "catch" men and women, as it were, "off their guard," and to estimate them when they were not aware that they were under scrutiny. Here in Washing were under scrutiny. Here in Washington, if the motive is simply one of curiosity, Talleyrand's theory can be utilized and tested to perfection. Take a stand upon any part of Pennsylvania avenue, from say, Fifteenth street to the foot of the Capitol, any afternoon, and there you will have before you, in an tour or so, a throng of noted men and women, the mention of whom would fill a book, much less a newspaper column. Let us glance at two of them:

A gentleman steps briskly along, neither oking to the right nor to the left, e appears absorbed in his own reflections In stature about five feet ten, and weigh-ing, possibly, 170 pounds. His hair, mus-tache and closely-clipped beard are a clear white, and his face is without a vestige of color. His dark Prince Albert is buttoned to the throat, and he adopts the English style of wearing over-gaiters to his shoes, of the same color as his pantaloons, which, of the same color as ms pantaloons, which, in this instance, are a dark gray. His silk hat is not of the latest style, and is not brushed to that degree of smoothness so dear to the heart of the average society man. There is one striking peculiarity about the man, and that is his eyes. They are large, dark and very expressive. It has been written that a marked feature of Aaron Burr's personal americance were his Aaron Burr's personal appearance were his eyes. They were so black, so brilliant and so magnetic that they rarely failed to influ-ence the person with whom he was con-

versing. The same to a great extent may be said of James G. Blaine, of whom I am now writing. Poor Sam, Cox used to say that Mr. Blaine was undoubtedly an able man of remarkable versatile gifts, but that he thought Mr. Blaine's success in his political life was as much due to the "spell" which his eyes threw over you and to the cordial manner in which he grasped your hand as to anything else. Whether this be true or not, it cannot be gainsaid that Mr. Blaine has, as a lady tersely expressed it once, "very fetching eyes," and those who have shaken bands with him are aware of the heartiness with which he greets those who are presented to him and the charm he exerts by the unaffectedness of his manner.

o which is driven a horse that has see better days comes slowly along. In the ouggy sits a lady who handles the reins as if it was an every-day occurrence. A lady who is nearing middle age, but with whon time has dealt so gently that it is impossi ble to believe that even in aute-bellum days she was a noted belle. In her rich brown hair, with its autumn tinge, no gray threads are to be seen, and her lovely hazel eyes are as bright and bewitching as they ever were. Modestly, yet elegantly, dressed, Mrs. Kate Chase Sprague is as much at home and as "nonchalant" in her old buggy as she was when the presiding mistress of the home of her father while h

tress of the home of her father while he was Governor, Senator, Secretary of the Treasury and Chief Justice.

What a romance the life of Mrs. Sprague has been. The idolized daughter, the wife of, at one time, the richest man in the New England States and a conspicuous politician, the autocrat of society in Washington, the lives new at the old headers. on, she lives now at the old homestead Edgeworth, purchased by Judge Chas-hortly before his death, a few miles from this city, apparently as well content with her simple surroundings as when she was the most sought after and confessedly the most brilliant woman in the social and offi-cial life of Washington.

HIS TIME WAS LIMITED. A man was sentenced to be hauged. He was on the scaffold with the sheriff and the parson. There was a rude, improvised seat on the outer edge of the platform, and for some reason the programme was de-layed a few moments. The sheriff said to

"You might be seated."
"No, thank you," seplied the prisoner,
"I can't stay long." - Onather World-Herald. WHAT THE STAIR CLOCK SAW.

Ip on the landing the stair clock stood-

The prim old clock, As staid as rock— And ticked away as hard as it could; "Tick-tock, tick-tock," "Tis late, go lock." Down in the doorway a lover woord-A sighing swain, A cooling twain, Each heart with love in a melting mood:

To part was pain, 'Twas plain, quite plain. The sighing swain took a final kiss-A rousing smack, A bold attack The dying note of their soulful bliss; Alas: alack!

A parting crack. The old clock saw, and it hid its face: A shocking sight
So late at night;
It woke the cchoes about the place;
"Not right," not right.
Young man, take flight."

t looked again and beheld a sight-An old man mad, The young girl's dad-A fleeing form in the cold, dark night, A maiden sad, Half sad, half glad, Frank B. Welch in The Jeweler HOW TO SPEND SUNDAY

Whatever differences may exist as to the precise reasons for the observance of Sunday, or as to the particular methods which those reasons suggest, there is happily no question about the fact that Sunday is an institution which exercises a most blessed influence on the committee. institution which exercises a most blessed influence on the community. Here at any rate we are all agreed. No proposal would be more universally condemned and even executated than a proposal to abolish Sunday as an institution, to let every day be alike, with no interruption of business and to pause in the restless stringgle of competition. The Secularist who limits his point of view to the life that now is would be an earnest in his convention to such a e as carnest in his opposition to such a proposal as the Christian who views this ife as the preparation for a greater life be-

yord.

There is, then, a general consensus of opinion that Sunday, viewed simply as a day of rest from ordinary occupation, is a great blessing. Instituted, as it was primarily no doubt, for the good of man's soul, it has proved the greatest boon to his whole nature. Even those who do not realize that they have a soul would be among the first to exclaim, "We cannot do without it," That observaince which the religious instinct wrested from the world. without it." That observance which the religious instinct wrested from the world by long and painful struggles—that rest from the dull grind of competition which nothing less strong than the religious matter would ever have succeeded in securing, is now universally recognized to be a great boon to mankind at large. But when we boon to mankind at large. But when we pass on to consider the question how Sunday is to be observed, we pass from the calm waters of universal assent, or, at any rate, of acquiescence, into a seething ocean of dispute and controversy.

It is to attempt to vindicate the real greatness and honor of Sanday, to vindicate it against mischievous attempts to identify it with the Jewish Sabbath on the one hand and against themen if force days of robbins.

and against turning it into a day of nothin but amusement on the other, that we no a strong and enlightened public opinion. but amusement on the other, that we need a strong and enlightened public opinion. It is of great importance in the formation of such an opinion not only to be quite clear that Sunday is not the Jewish Sabbath, but also to know why it is not. For a man will never get the full blessing out of his enlightened Sunday observance till he has got rid of a false conscience on the subject of the fourth commandment. The Christian is as free from the law of the Jewish Sabbath as he is from the law of the Jewish Sabbath as he is from the law that prescribed circumetsion. A very little thought will enable us to see that Christian instinct from St. Paul's day has refused to identify Sunday with the Sabbath. For what was the rule of Sabbath observance? A Jew might not do any work, he might not sweep his room, or light his fire, or cook his food. He might not even go outside the camp to gather manna. A man was found collecting sticks for firewood on the Sabbath day and the whole congregation stored him with stones till he died. Has anything like this ever been advocated as the law of Sunday? Did any one ever keep Sanday in this way? And yet those who maintain that Sunday is only a continuation of the Sabbath, ought, if they are consistent, to keep Sunday in this way? To what obvious absurdities it would lead a moment's reflection will tell us.

And we are strengthened in this convicmoment's reflection will tell us.

And we are strengthened in this convic-tion by observing Christ's attitude toward the Jewish Sabbath. That attitude is the more remarkable because He was generally more remarkable because He was generally so careful to observe all Jewish practices. But He seems to make an exception in His profest against the rigidity of the Sabbath, "He healed those who were sick on the Sabbath day," when there was apparently noreason why Heshould not have put it off till the next day. He did not bid those who were healed to rest where they were till to-morrow, as the law would have bid-den them, but He said, "Rise, take up thy bed and walk," His obvious intention was bed and wais. His obvious intention was to show that he was superior to the Jewish Sabbath, that it was made for man, and that its temporary and limited purpose was now fulfilled. And as regards Sundaysit is needless to say that he said no word that could imply that there should be any continuation of the Jewish Sabbath under another name and on another day.

The Christian Sunday then is not a con-

another name and on another day.

The Christian Sunday, then, is not a continuation of the Jewish Sabbath; it rests upon no Divine commandment. God gave llis people laws in the olden time that they might be trained to give laws to themselves. He gave commandments which imposed prohibitions that His people might learn to restrain themselves. He claimed a portion of their time. He said, "That portion must be wholly Mine; it must be observed in a special fashion," such as was laid down. This was a necessary step in the training of mankind. One can easily see how without it a commercial nation like the Jews would have sunk into a state of money-making godlessness. They were pulled up sharply by finding every seventh money-making godlessness. They were pulled up sharply by finding every seventh day fenced round with observances which were meant to remind them of their rela-tionship to God.

But the spiritual reality which underlay this observance of the Sabbath is the sanctithis observance of the Sabbath is the sancti-fication of the whole life by the consecra-tion of stated portions of it to the direct worship of God. The Christian Church seized hold of this underlying reality from the first and connected it with that Resur-rection Day which was to be a new spiritual departure for muching But she more departure for mankind. But she never dreamt of transferring to this the old rules and prohibitions which had served their time and done their work. That the first day of the week was a day on which the early Christians met for worship is abundantly clear from the Acts of the Apostles, but there is no hint there of any other kind of observance, nor was any such possible. The shops did their business, and the law courts were open on the first day as well as on any other day, and it was not till the time of Constantine that the religious forces were able to gain Sunday from the extrencies of worldly business. Even then there is no trace anywhere of any attempt to demand for Sunday observance the sanction of the fourth command-

ment.
Sunday was considered to be God's free gift to His people in this toiling world, a day of resurrection, a day of worship, a day of elevation above eartily things. Such is still the true idea of Sunday. The man who keeps it in the spirit of that idea will want no rules for its observance—be has entered into the spirit of the day. He has got hold of a great living principle, and so long as he is true to the one and the

so long as he is true to the one and the other he may very well be trusted as to their applications.

There is a saying of the great Saint Augustine which seems just to meet the case.

"Ana et five quoid vis.—Love and then do what you like." Just so a man who has grasped the true idea of Sunday, who is alive to the great privilege of Sunday, may "stand fast in the liberty wherewith Christ has made him free." He will not want any rules for Sunday observance; he will remember that, masmuch as he is a follower of Christ, he has not rules to keep, but a of Christ, he has not rules to keep, but a character to imitate. He will maintain his freedom, and the only question that he will ask is how Christ would have him observe Sunday, and in the answer to question, honestly faced, he will find the ideal of his life.

In the light of a great principle like this we may venture on a few details. The general interests of seciety obviously and clearly demand not only a weekly day of rest for physical reasons (though that is rest for physical reasons (though that is by no means an unimportant considera-tion), but a day of clevation for moral and spiritual reasons. Every busy man knows the tendency to become absorbed in his week-day occupations; every student knows the danger of being buried in his books; many feel the difficulty of the down-grade tendencies of their ordinary associa-tions. They know that they might shik into being almost mere machines. But if into being almost mere machines. But if Sunday is to be maintained as a day of elevation it will only be by according to worship its primary place. Worship is the first business of Sunday as work is the first business of week-days. Recreation holds the same place in both, and that is a subor-dinate one. It is necessary to insist on this however much we may sympathize with the quite reasonable desire for less restricted recreations on Sunday than are now possible. If the true idea of Sunday as in the first place a day of worship is not preserved, and if schemes for recreation practically monopolize the whole day it is not too much to say that we shall day it is not too much to say that we shall soon lose Sunday altogether. Nothing but the religious motive would have gained it from the grasp of ceaseless competition, and nothing but the religious motive will keep it.

It may safely be prophesied that Sunday would never be preserved as an institution merely for physical rest and amusement, especially as the amusement of less than half the social body would necessarily provide the greater portion with necessary work in supplying it. We need a strong protest at the present time from all who value Bunday as a great boon against the increase, not of harmless amusementa, which occasion no work, but of recreations

which practically deprive rallway servant and household servants of any Sunday at all. Granting that a morning given to worship may quite fitly be followed by an afternoon of some healthy out door amuse ment in the case of real workers, yet noth ing can excuse the selfishness oparties on Sundays, or of a dem special trains for excursions on the

parties on Sundays, or of a demand for special trains for excursions on the river. And for the most part it is not the weary brainworker or hard-working mechanic who demands these additional opportunities. The 10 a. m. train which ruos on Sunday from Paddington to Maidenhead Is filled (I am told) by the class of people who spend their week-days in perpetual recreation, who go from race to race, from one party to another, from hanging over Hyde Park railings to idle gossiping to houses. That train is a type of the real peril which is ahead, viz., that Sunday should be retained only as a holiday for those who can afford to take one. That the health, the happiness, the home life of so deserving a body as the railway servanta, should be sacrificed to the self-indulgence of upper class idlers is a thing which makes one burn with indignation. For charity's sake, for the sake of stociety as a whole, above all for the sake of stociety as a whole, above all for the sake of stociety as a whole, above all for the sake of stociety as a whole, above all for the sake of those who have such scanty leisure we are bound to abstain from any recreation however lawful and tempting which makes Sunday a hard day for other people. On the other hand much might be done to make Sunday a brighter day for the young. The perpetual "Thou shalt not" which forms too large a part of the dim and

young. The perpetual "Thou shalt not which forms too large a part of the dim an hazy instruction on the subject too often given in schools and families is not only wearisome and oppressive, but tends to promote inevitable reactions. The distinction between Sunday games and week-day ones, or Sunday tunes and week-day ones, is a relic of that inteful system which cut life into two abd left the thought of God's service out of work and play alike. I should be glad to see a cricket match on every visbe glad to see a cricket match on every vil-lage green on Sunday afternoons, and the games of every institute as freely used as on week-days. There can be no better re-laxations than our ordinary English games.

and it is a thousand pittes to proscribe them as unit for Sundays. Then, again, in relation to another much controverted matter, the opening of museums and picture galleries on Sunday after-noons, might we not hope to get rid of the real difficulty of keeping the ordinary at-tendants at work by chilating volunteers from the leisured classes to act as guardians, and so to enable thousands of more intelligent Londoners to visit the tional Gallery and the Natural History seum on Sunday afternoons? Not seum on Sunday afternoons? Nothing could be more elevating than such opportunities, and to thousands who have little choice on a wet Sunday save the limited one of the public house or the street corner, the boon would be an inestimable one. We ought, as a matter of charity, to guard jealously the opportunities for Sunday rest of the great working classes, and we ought to prove the street against the scales and we ought to protest against any selfish employment of Sunday labor. But we are most Christ-like when we are most human in our sympathies, and we shall insure a far more telligent and health-giving use of Sunday by promoting all reasonable recreations in the after part of the day than by looking askance at them or by invoking against them an abrogated commandment of the

them an abrogated commandment of the Jewish law.

Nothing is absolutely wrong in itself on Sunday that is not wrong on week days, for Sunday does not alter or modify the great laws of right and wrong. But every man who has a real purpose in life will see things which for himself are wrong on Sunday because they hinder that purpose in day because they hinder that purpose in-stead of settling it forward. And every man who has learnt to feel for others will feel that it is noble work for him to sacrifice even some of his liberty in order to stem the tide of that Sunday selfishness which is the only real Sunday desecration. And this attitude be maintained and extende we shall preserve all that is essential in our English Sunday.—Rev. Prebendary Eylun in Emplish Illustrated Magazine.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

What are supposed to be the first playing cards used were recently found in the Pompellan excavations and are now in the possion of a collector in Philadelphia.

cards are perfectly square. A nover flower has been discovered at the Isthmus of Tehuantepec. The floral cha-meleon has the power of changing its colors during the day. In the morning it is white, when the sun is at its zenith it is red, and at night it is blue. Only at noon does it give out any perfume.

The Philadelphia Ledger says that while December 21 is, by a sort of common consent, reckoned the "shortest day" year-that is, between sun-up and sun-down-it is not so in strict fact. The 22d sunrise is also a minute later, leaving things even at the close.

The small letter "i" was formerly written without the dot. The dot was introduced in the fourteenth century to distinguish "I' from "e" in hasty and indistinct writing The letter "I" was originally used where "j" is now employed. The distinction between "i" and "j" was introduced by the Dutch printers at a comparatively recent date, and the "j" was dotted because the "l," from which it was derived, was written with a dot.

The latest and most unique invention is a machine for buttering bread. It is used in connection with the great patent breadcutter, and is intended for use in prisons, workhouses and other reformatory tions. There is a cylindrical-shaped brush, which is fed with butter, and lays a thin layer on the bread as it comes from the cutter. The machine can be worked by hand, steam or electricity, and has a cap cutting and buttering 750 loaves of bread an hour. The saving of butter and bread and the decrease in the quantity of crumbs is said to be very large.

TIMELY INFORMATION.

Barnum's "Greatest on Earth" has finished its English engagement and will immediately return to its native heath.

The favorite sequence among "policy" players now is 72-6-11. This is known as the Nellie Bly gig, and represents the time made by that young lady in her tour around the world. Colonel John C. New, our Consul-General in London, has just purchased a magnifi-

cent fur-lined overcoat, which is a duplicate of those worn by the Prince of Wales and the Russian Ambassador. This garment cost fifty guineas (\$315), yet Colonel New has the effrontery to declare that he doesn't feel as much at home in it as he did in the coonskin coat he used to wear in the Wabash country before he engaged in the service of his native land. The Phiradelphia Ledger has been making a little arithmetical calculation relative to

Senator Morgan's proposal that Congress

appropriate \$5,000,000 for the purpose o

leporting the colored people from the United States to Africa. Not more than

200,000 persons according to the Ledocr's figures, could be carried away and subsisted for that sum in a single year, and by the close of the year the natural increase the 8,000,000 negroes in this country wo be not far from to 250,000. MR. MORSE'S ASSISTANT. THE CHITIC office yesterday received a visit from Mr. W. H. Ward, well known as having assisted Morse in stretching the first elegraph line between Washington and Baltimore. Mr. Ward was in London at the laying of the first Atlantic cable, and caused something of a panic among the shareholders of the company by predicting the failure of the recording instruments at so long range. The panic was relieved, however, by his invention of the fash system, at present in use. Mr. Ward is now in Washington urging the renewal of his patent for builts lanking.

patent for bullet-making. BELVA ON COAST DEFENSES. Belva Lockwood's head is entirely level on the subject of coast defenses. She says

we do not need to spend ten cents for them if we mind our own business. Brave for Belva!—Baston Herald.

ANSWERED LIKE A MAN. Mr. Figg-If you were out in a boat with your wife and sister, and the boat should upset, which one would you saver
Mr. Hogg-Myself. - Terro Hante E.

POPULAR MEN IN TOWN.

COLUMN TO ASSESS

a crowd of delighted New Yorkers stood about ex-Congressman J. J. O'Neill of St. Louis in the corridor of Willard's last night

Louis in the corridor of Willard's last night and Interned to him explain why St. Louis did not got the fair. His reasons were unique, but they were good ones, and each one told by him drew forth bursts of taughter from his listeners.

He said that one of the delegation, just before leaving for Washington, was approached by an old resident, who, desiring to flatter him, said that the fact of his being a member of the party would surely insure a victory for St. Louis in the contest for the fair.

for the fair.

The delegate desiring to return the compliment, unfatentionally repeated an old built by saying: "St. Louis will have it if it is possible to obtain it, and, air, she shall have it if it is impossible." It was only when the delegate was on the train that the laughter of his companions told him of the mistake he had made.

Mr. Edwin E. Perkins, one of the best-known brokers in New York, was one of the gentlemen who listened to Mr. O'Neill's stories. The blood that runs through Mr. Perkins' vetns is about as blue as can be found among the society people of New York. His family is one of the oldest in that city, and own the greater part of the upper end of the island known as Fort Washington. Mr. Perkins is about 40 years of age, but he looks much younger. He is a typical New Yorker, with none of the airs that are affected by society men of that city.

Another of the guests at Willard's is Mr.
J. J. Brown of Minneapolis. There are a
great many lawyers in this city who are
waiting for decisions to be handed down in
cases in which they are engaged, but none
of them are more anxious than Mr. Brown.
He has a matter before one of the commissious here which involves nearly \$5,000,000.
Mr. Brown expects a favorable decision in a
very few days, and if his expectations prove
true he will take back to many hearts in the
Northwest a good deal of joy.

Charles II. Tupper, the Canadian statesman, is at the Arlington. He is here to represent the Cadadian Foreign Office at the conference on the fishery question. Mr. Tupper is accompanied by his private secretary, Mr. C. C. Chipman. He will remain a short time in Washington to see his old friends after he has transacted his business.

The handsome Governor Warmouth of The handsome Governor Warmouth of Louisiana is also at the Arlington. He towered fully a head above the men who crowded round him last night to shake his hand, although many of them were considered to be pretty tail men. The Governor's mustache continues to get gray, and prohably by the time he makes his next visit to Washington he will not head to be set of Washington he will not be able to boast of a single black hair in it. The Governor was compelled to bold a sort of an informal reception in the corridors, so great was the number that gathered to see him.

There was not a healthier or heartier man There was not a healther or hearfier man in the Arlington last night than Cornelius M. Bliss, the New York banker. Mr. Bliss came on from New York to attend the banquet tendered to the Pan-American delegates last night, and will return home to-day. This great banker continues to hold his youthful appearance in spite of his advancing years, and walks and talks with as much energy as he did many years ago.

the Ebbitt House last night in the person of Captain J. P. Hampson, of the United States army. The captain looks more like a student than an officer, and is evidently a man of much intelligence

Fort Sully, Dak., sent a representative to

Two of South America's citizens are at Chamberlin's: They are Mr. J. W. and Mr. E. D. Crumpacks of Valparaiso. Both are swarthy and show the marks of their European ancestry plainly in their intelligent faces. The Riggs House will soon be compelled

The Riggs House will soon be compelled to change its name to "The Attorney's Home," for there are probably more lawyers stopping there than at any other hotel in the city. Two of the newest to join this legal colony are Mr. W. Ward of Chester, Pa., and Mr. James Heines of Cleveland, Ohio. These gentlemen have business with the Supreme Court and have journeyed here to attend to it. here to attend to it. Mr. W. J. Curtis of New York is at the

among all classes of people, and also has many friends in Washington. Mr. Eugene Vall of Paris is at the Arno. He arrived last night and will spend some time here seeing the city.

Normandie. He is well known in that city

Mr. E. B. Martin of Boston, Mr is secretary of the American Pilo ciation, and is here on business for that

Late Arrivals.

Willard's—J. J. Cobin, New York; T. C. Anderson, New Orleans; H. J. Daily, Philadelphia; John F. Frisby and wife, Connersville, Pa.; F. J. Rourke, New York. Enurtr House—Dr. J. H. Dorsey, Minnesota; J. G. Butler, Maine; 240 members of the Philadelphia Produce Exchange. THE ARLINGTON-W. H. Van Slyck, New York; A. H. Shepperd and wife, Alabama.
Biggs Housz,—Chester Halcombe, New
York; T. Clark, Boston; H. L. Earle, N. S.
Bentley, New York; A. H. Emery, Stamford, Conn.; Baron Von Kameche, Coblenz,
Germany.

Germany. METROPOLITAN — A. B. Pearsall, Red Springs, N. C.; J. G. Sage, Birmingham, Ala.; George D. Reese, Philadelphia. NATIONAL—M. J. Meyer, New York; George Daiman, Pittsburg, Pa.; B. F. Hodg, man, Wheeling, W. Va.; E. J. Caldwell, Chicago: Roswell W. Keene, New York. HOTEL ARNO-Charles A. Hemming way, Philudelphia; Mrs. M. E. Pope, Leav enworth, Kan.

Hotel, Normannie J. S. Hoyt, Norristown, N. J.; W. V. Strong and wife, Detroit, Mich. CHAMBERLIN'S-E. H. Stevens, Philadel-bia; J. Fremont Basset, New York. WORMLEY'S-W. Bakewell, Pittsburg, 'a.; T. Etting, Philadelphia; E. L. Cortrell,

St. James-J. W. Kendall, Richmo Va.; T. R. Chatham, Atlanta, Ga.; W. Taylor, Pittsburg, Pa. Howard House-Henry A. Green, Providence, R. I.; Harry C. Cox, Baltimore; M. T. Hart, Oxford, N. C. AMERICAN HOUSE-James Van Alstyne,

H. S. Hudson, New York; M. C. Davis Fairfax, Va.: A. Rippen, Northampton HOTEL RANDALL-H. C. Ward, New York; John Knowles, F. J. Bonavita, New

HARRIS HOUSE-A. Bornholett, New York; L. S. Wood, Lovell, Mass.; D. H. Reed, Chicago. HOTEL JOHNSON-Harvey Wroter, New York; H. M. Lane and wife. Richmond GODFREY'S HOTEL-M, B. Douglass and wife, Fall River, Mass.; William Fields, Detroit, Mich.; Harry Clark, New York.

SOMETHING NEW IN DUELS. West Virginia has given us something two men, who were continuing a drunk over from Saturday, quarreled and decided on a duel. They only had one pistol. That did not stop them. They agreed on taking a shot turn about. They faithfully carried out this agreement, firing two shots apiece, when friends interfered and stopped the

affair. One of the duelists was suffering

from a scalp wound and the other was shot

through the hand. The playwright who wanted a new dueling scene can find a A SORROWFUL SERAPH. Miss Willard writes to Susan B. Anthony,

for her seventieth birthday, a note in which "Beloved Susan: You have lived seventy selfless, sacred, sorrowful, scraphic years." Miss Willard is evidently not well inormed about scraphs. Latest information s that scraphs are never sorrowful. If Miss

Willard has been as adjectiverous as the occasion demanded, she would have said; Dear Susan: You are the most awestest and most sprightly, sportive, splendid, spicy, spunky specimen of a spouseless spinster ever seen in this country.— Boston Herald.